tourism connected with pilgrimage and use the new facilities and infrastructure created in this regard to serve as a back-bone for international tourism in times to come; (vi) Create conditions in which India attains a very great reputation for ethical trade and business practices; and (vii) Help in initiation of a great reform movement in India, a sort of new renaissance which would make India more creative and constructive and bring about a work culture of the highest class and also project India as a unique country which provides opportunities for physical invigoration, mental rejuvenation, cultural enrichment and spiritual elevation.

Shifting of Food Craft Institute from Bhubaneswar to Pathrajpur

1646. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Food Craft Institute is still operating from a rented building in Bhubaneswar while construction of building has already been completed at Pathrajpur about a year ago;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the immediate steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to shift the institute in its building at Pathrajpur to avoid loss to the exchequer on account of rent?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) As per the scheme of setting up of Food Craft Institute, the land and building is to be provided by the State Government. Though the Central Government has sanctioned the project and Rs. 20.00 lakhs have already been released yet the Institute has not started functioning. The building that has come up at Pathrajpur is a tourist complex and not meant for Food Craft Institute as per information received from the State Government.

(c) The State Government has decided to start functioning of the Food Craft Institute in a NGO building at Chandikhol, 12 km from Pathrajpur, very shortly, until its own building is constructed.

Tourist lodges in Himachal Pradesh

1647. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive action

plan for the ensuing year for construction of Tourist lodges (Yatri Niwas) in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, location-wise details of the project which have been accorded priority after consultations with the State Government; and

(c) the financial assistance to be provided for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Development of tourism infrastructure is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. Department of Tourism, Government of India, however, provides some financial assistance for tourism projects prioritised in consultation with them every year.

(b) and (c) Thirty two projects of Himachal Pradesh with estimated Central component of Rs. 575.00 lakhs have been prioritised/ reprioritised during the current financial year. This does not include construction of any Yatri Niwas.

Forcible entry in Taj Mahal

†1648. SHRI C.O. POULOSE:

SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a number of youngmen forcibly entered the Taj Mahal complex and damaged the notice-boards, uprooted three gates, took baths in the water tanks and shouted slogans there on 14th October, 2001;

(b) if so, whether Government have received a report on this incident from the Archaeological Department;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) A large number of people who had gathered at Agra in connection with a political rally, forcibly entered the Taj Mahal complex on 14th October, 2001 without entry tickets.

They scribbled grafitti on the monument and raised political slogans. They also entered the fountains and Wuzu tank.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.